

Appn. No. 09/696,095
Amdt. dated October 29, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 2, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 40-47 and add new claims 48-56 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-47 (Cancelled).

Claim 48 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus adapted to be connected through a network to portable terminals and printers provided at different locations, the printing information distributing apparatus comprising:

- 5 printing information storage means for storing printing information items;
- printing reservation means, adapted to be connected to the portable terminals through the network, for transmitting a printing reservation screen image to reserve a printing
- 10 information item to one of the portable terminals in response to access from the one of the portable printers, storing identification information for retrieving a reserved printing information item, corresponding to reservation information

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showing the reserved printing information item, in reservation
15 information storing means in response to a printing reservation
operation by the one of the portable terminals;
receiving means for receiving identification information
input in one of the printers by user operation and transmitted
from the one of the printers;
20 reading means for retrieving the reservation information
storage means based on the identification information received by
the receiving means, and reading the reservation information
corresponding to the identification information from the
reservation information storage means; and
25 transmitting means for reading from the printing
information storage means the printing information item
corresponding to the reservation information read by the reading
means, and printing out the printing information item by
transmitting the printing information item to the one of the
30 printers through the network.

Claim 49 (New). A printing information distributing
apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the transmitting means
transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the
printing information item to the one of the printers, and

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5 transmits the printing information item to the one of the printers when an amount corresponding to the charge information is paid.

Claim 50 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus according to claim 49, wherein the printers comprise money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the charge information.

Claim 51 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus adapted to be connected to portable terminals and printers through a network, the printing information distributing apparatus comprising:

5 printing reservation means for storing reservation information of printing information which has been reserved by one of the portable terminals accessing a printing reservation site in the network corresponding to identification information of the one of the portable terminals in storage means;

10 reading means for receiving identification information transmitted from one of the printers and reading from the storage means reservation information of the printing information corresponding to the received identification information; and

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transmitting means for transmitting the printing
15 information, corresponding to the reservation information which
has been read, to the one of the printers through the network and
printing out the printing information by the one of the printers.

Claim 52 (New). A printing information distributing
apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the transmitting means
transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the
printing information to the one of the printers, and transmits
5 the printing information to the one of the printers when an
amount corresponding to the charge information is paid.

Claim 53 (New). A printing information distributing
apparatus according to claim 52, wherein the printers comprise
money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the
charge information.

Claim 54 (New). A printing information distributing
apparatus adapted to be connected to portable terminals and
printers through a network, the printing information distributing
apparatus comprising:

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5 reservation means for storing reservation information corresponding to user identification information of one of the portable terminals in storage means when the one of the portable terminals accesses a printing reservation site in the network and reserves printing information in the printing reservation site;

10 and

transmitting means for receiving user identification information of a portable terminal from a printer, referring to the reservation information stored in the storage means based on the received user identification information, and transmitting

15 the printing information corresponding to the reservation information to the printer;

wherein the printer transmits the user identification information of the one of the portable terminals to the printing information distributing apparatus, receives the printing

20 information transmitted from the printing information distributing apparatus, and prints out the received printing information.

Claim 55 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus according to claim 54, wherein the transmitting means transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the

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printing information to the printer, and transmits the printing
5 information to the printer when an amount corresponding to the
charge information is paid.

Claim 56 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus according to claim 55, wherein the printer comprises money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the charge information.